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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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In re:

Bulgarian Bar Inc. d/b/a BG Bar Inc.,

Case No: <u>1-22-40264-jmm</u>

Chapter 11

Debtor.

......X

NOTICE OF HEARING ON MOTION OF DEBTOR PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. § 1121(e) TO EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD TO FILE A PLAN OF REORGANIZATION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a hearing on the annexed motion, dated July 5, 2022 (the "Motion"), of Bulgarian Bar Inc. d/b/a BG Bar Inc (the "Debtors"), will be held before the Honorable Jil Mazer - Marino, United States Bankruptcy Judge, July 27, 2022, at 11:00 A.M., in the United States Bankruptcy Court — Eastern District of New York — Brooklyn, 271-C Cadman Plaza East, Courtroom 3529, Brooklyn, New York, 11201. The hearing will be held telephonically or by video or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. The dial-in information and video link will be provided by email after registration with eCourt Appearances two days in advance of all appearance at https://www.nyeb.uscourts.gov/content/judge-jil-mazer-marino.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that any objection to the within Motion must be in writing and must state with particularity the grounds of the objection. The objection must be filed with the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court electronically at www.nyeb.uscourts.gov, and a copy

of the objection must be served upon the undersigned counsel for the debtors so as to be received no later than seven (7) day before the hearing date.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York July 5, 2022

/s/ Alla Kachan
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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re:

Bulgarian Bar Inc. d/b/a BG Bar Inc.,

Case No: <u>1-22-40264-jmm</u>

Chapter 11

Debtor. -----X

MOTION OF DEBTOR PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. § 1121(e) TO EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD TO FILE A PLAN OF REORGANIZATION

TO THE HONORABLE JIL MAZER-MARINO, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:

Bulgarian Bar Inc. d/b/a BG Bar Inc., the Debtor and Debtor in Possession ("Debtor"), by and through its undersigned counsel, Alla Kachan, of the Law Offices of Alla Kachan, P.C., file this Motion to Extend Time to File a Chapter 11 Small Business Plan of Reorganization and Disclosure Statement pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1121(e). In support of this motion, the Debtor represents and alleges as follows:

Background

- 1. On February 15, 2022 (the "Petition Date"), the Debtors filed voluntary corporate bankruptcy petition with this Court for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 2. The Debtor is a New York corporation with the business address113 Ladlow Street, New York, NY, 11223.
- 3. From the filing of this bankruptcy case, Debtor has consistently and timely filed all Monthly Operational Reports pursuant to the rules of the Bankruptcy Court. As well, the Debtor

is up to date with all the payments of the quarterly fees to the US Trustee's Office as debtor in possession.

- 4. The Debtor continues to operate its respective business and manage its properties as Debtor in Possession, pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
 - 5. No trustee or examiner has been appointed in this chapter 11 case.

Jurisdiction

6. The Court has jurisdiction to consider this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

Relief Requested

- 7. The Debtor requests an extension of the time period to file a Plan of Reorganization (as hereinafter defined) through and including **December 12, 2022**, pursuant to section 1121(e) of the Bankruptcy Code, without prejudice to the Debtor's right to seek an additional extension of such period. Bulgarian Bar Inc. is a small business Debtor as defined by 11 U.S. C. § 101(51C).
- 8. Section 1121(e)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code addresses the small business debtor's time to file a plan and disclosure statement by first providing that only the debtor may file a plan for the first 180 days after the date of the order for relief ("Exclusivity period"), but that the debtor must file a plan within 300 days. 11 U.S.C. § 1121(e)(1).
- 9. Further, section 1121(e)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that in the small business case the Plan of reorganization and Disclosure statement shall be filed not later than 300 days after the date of the order for relief.
- 10. The Debtor's 180 days periods to file the Plan of reorganization and Disclosure statement are currently set to expire on August 14, 2022, respectively (the "Exclusivity Period").

- 11. An extension of the Time period to file a plan is essential and appropriate. Ample cause exists to grant the Debtor the extension of the Time period to file a plan as, inter alia, (i) the Debtor needs more time to reach mutually agreeable terms of settlement between the Debtor and Creditors of the case, in order to fully resolve the filed claims, and allowing the Debtor to approve said terms by an Order of the Bankruptcy Court and confirm a plan of reorganization containing said terms, (ii) there is no prejudice to the Creditors, as, in fact, allowing the Debtor time to reach and finalize mutual terms of treatment of the Creditors' claims, respectively, will be in the best interest of all Creditors.
- 12. Extension of the Time period to file a plan is warranted and appropriate given the circumstances. The relief requested will allow the Debtor to present the Court and its creditors with a sound plan satisfactory to all involved.

Basis for Relief Requested

- Pursuant to section 1121(e) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Court may extend the Time period to file a plan for cause. See 11 U.S.C. § 1121(e) ("on request of a party in interest made within the respective periods specified in subsections (3) and (A) of this section and after notice and a hearing, the court may for cause reduce or increase the 180-day period or the 300-day period referred to in this section"). However, the 180-day period "may not be extended beyond a date that is 300 days after the date of the Order for relief and the 300-day period, where ample cause exists, may be extended when it can be demonstrated that it is more likely than not that the court will confirm a plan within a reasonable amount of time Id. § 1121(e)(3)(A).
- 14. The Time period to file a plan established by Congress were incorporated in the Bankruptcy Code to afford a full and fair opportunity to propose a chapter 11 plan and enable solicitation of acceptances of the plan without the deterioration and disruption of a debtor's

business that might be caused by the filing of multiple competing plans. Indeed, the primary objective of a chapter 11 case is the formulation, confirmation, and consummation of a consensual chapter 11 plan. The Debtor intends to achieve this objective by reaching mutually agreed upon terms for the settlement of debts of the creditors.

- 15. Section 1121(e) of the Bankruptcy Code empowers a Bankruptcy Court to extend such a time periods "for cause." The Bankruptcy Code neither defines the term "cause" for purposes of section 1121(e) nor establishes formal criteria for an extension. The legislative history of section 1121 indicates, however, that it is intended to be a flexible standard to balance the competing interests of a debtor and its creditors. See H.R. Rep. No. 95- 595, at 231-32 (1978), reprinted in 1978 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5963 (noting that Congress intended to give Bankruptcy Courts great flexibility to protect a debtor's interests by allowing a debtor unimpeded opportunity to negotiate settlement of debts without interference from other parties in interest).
- 16. In exercising its broad discretion, the Bankruptcy Court may consider a variety of factors to assess the totality of circumstances in each case. See In re Borders Group, Inc., 460 B.R. 818, 821-22 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2011) ("The determination of cause under section 1121(d) is a fact-specific inquiry and the court has broad discretion in extending or terminating exclusivity."); In re Adelphia Commc'ns Corp., 352 B.R. 578, 587 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2006) (identifying objective factors courts historically have considered in determining whether cause exists to extend or terminate exclusivity); see also In re McLean Indus., Inc., 87 B.R. 830, 834 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1987) (identifying factors used by courts to determine whether cause exists to extend exclusivity); In re Dow Corning Corp., 208 B.R. 661, 664 (Bankr. E.D. Mich. 1997); In re Express One Int'l, Inc., 194 B.R. 98 (Bankr. E.D. Tex. 1996). Those factors include, without limitation:
 - (i) the size and complexity of the debtor's case;

- (ii) the necessity for sufficient time to permit the debtor to negotiate a chapter 11 plan and prepare adequate information;
 - (iii) the existence of good faith progress towards reorganization;
 - (iv) the fact that the debtor is paying its bills as they become due;
 - (v) whether the debtor has demonstrated reasonable prospects for filing a viable plan;
 - (vi) whether the debtor has made progress in negotiations with its creditors;
 - (vii) the amount of time which has elapsed in the case;
- (viii) whether the debtor is seeking an extension of exclusivity in order to pressure creditors to submit to the debtor's reorganization demands; and
 - (ix) whether an unresolved contingency exists.

Adelphia Commc'ns, 352 B.R. at 587 (noting that the nine factors listed above are "objective factors which courts historically have considered in making determinations of this character"); see also Borders, 460 B.R. at 822 (evaluating the nine factors set forth in Adelphia to hold that debtor established cause to extend exclusivity); McLean Indus., 87 B.R. at 834; accord In re Express One, 194 B.R. at 100 (identifying all of the nine factors as relevant in determining whether cause exists to extend exclusivity); In re United Press Int'l, Inc., 60 B.R. 265, 269 (Bankr. D.C. 1986) (holding that debtor showed cause to extend exclusive period based upon certain of the nine factors). The exercise of the Court's discretion is not simply a check-off process, but is based upon the totality of the circumstances. The above factors are not exclusive bases for such exercise.

17. Application of the identified standards to the indisputable facts of this chapter 11 case demonstrates more than ample cause to grant the Debtor's requested extensions of the Time period to file a plan. The extensions are necessary and appropriate in order for the debtor to have the opportunity contemplated by the Bankruptcy Code to propose a chapter 11 plan and solicit acceptances of such plan.

- 18. On June 30, 2022, the Court entered an Order referring the Debtor and CAJ 113 LUDLOW CORP, the Landlord, to mediation. Pursuant to the Mediation referral order, the Parties shall select a mediator by July 13, 2022, and to file with the Court a stipulation and order that authorizes the appointment of the selected mediator.
- 19. Consequently, the Debtor needs an additional time to select a mediator, to participate in a mediation, to reach an agreement with the Landlord, to obtain Court approval for the settlement terms and to file a plan of reorganization and disclosure statement, offering treatment to the main and other remaining Creditors of the estate.
- 20. This is the Debtors' *first* request for an extension of the Time period to file a plan of reorganization ("Exclusivity period"). It is self-evident that the Debtor is not seeking these extensions to artificially delay the conclusion of this chapter 11 case or to hold creditors hostage to an unsatisfactory plan proposal. Simply put, at this juncture, the Debtor a simply needs time to reach an agreement with the Landlord, to obtain Court approval for the settlement terms and to file a plan of reorganization and disclosure statement, offering treatment to the main and other remaining Creditors of the estate.
- 21. The requested extensions of the Time period to file a plan will not harm any economic stakeholder. Rather, the time will be used to resolve a claim of the largest creditor, CAJ 113 LUDLOW CORP, through the Mediation. Moreover, should any events occur or there be a significant change in circumstances, a party in interest may move to reduce the Time period to file a plan. See 11 U.S.C. § 1121(e).
- 22. Courts considering an extension of exclusivity also may assess a debtor's liquidity and solvency. *See Adelphia Commc'ns*, 352 B.R. at 587; *Texaco*, 76 B.R. at 322. Here the Debtor

has sufficient liquidity and is paying their administrative expenses as they come due and will continue to do so.

Conclusion

- 23. The Debtor has responded to the exigent demands of its chapter 11 case and have worked diligently to advance the reorganization process. Bulgarian Bar Inc should be afforded a full, fair, and reasonable opportunity to negotiate, propose, file, and solicit acceptances of its chapter 11 plan. This first requested extension of the Time period to file a plan is warranted and necessary to afford the Debtor a meaningful opportunity to pursue the chapter 11 reorganization process and build a consensus among economic stakeholders, all as contemplated by chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 24. The extension of the Time period to file a plan will enable the Debtor to harmonize the diverse and competing interests that exist and seek to resolve any conflicts in a reasoned and balanced manner for the benefit of all parties in interest.

Notice

- 25. Notice of this Motion has been provided to parties in interest in accordance with the Order Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 105(a) and (d) and Bankruptcy Rules 1015(c), 2002(m). In view of the facts and circumstances, such notice is sufficient and no other or further notice need be provided.
- 26. No previous request for the relief sought by this Motion has been made by the Debtor to this or any other Court.

WHEREFORE the Debtor respectfully requests that the Extensions of the Time period to file the Chapter 11 plan of reorganization and Disclosure statement to be granted together with such other and further relief as is just.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York July 5, 2022

<u>/s/ Alla Kachan</u>

Alla Kachan, Esq. Law Offices of Alla Kachan, P.C. 2799 Coney Island Avenue, suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11235

Tel.: (718) 513-3145

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AFFIRMATION IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S MOTION PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. § 1121(e) TO EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD TO FILE A PLAN OF REORGANIZATION

The Debtor, Bulgarian Bar Inc. d/b/a BG Bar Inc ("Debtor") by undersigned counsel, Alla Kachan, of the Law Offices of Alla Kachan, P.C., respectfully requests that the Court enter an Order extending time to file a Chapter 11 Small Business plan of reorganization and Disclosure Statement, and in support thereof avers as follows:

JURISDICTION

1. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1334 and 157.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 2. I am the attorney for the Debtor in the above-captioned case and after the review of the Debtor's documents and having discussed at length with the Debtor, am fully familiar with the facts therein.
- 3. On February 15, 2022 (the "Petition Date"), the Debtor filed voluntary corporate bankruptcy petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

- 4. From the filing of this bankruptcy case, Debtor has consistently and timely filed all Monthly Operational Reports pursuant to the rules of the Bankruptcy Court. As well, Debtor is up to date with all the payments of the quarterly fees to the US Trustee's Office as debtor in possession.
- 5. The Debtor requests an extension of the time period to file a Plan of Reorganization (as hereinafter defined) through and including **December 12, 2022,** pursuant to section 1121(e) of the Bankruptcy Code, without prejudice to the Debtor's right to seek an additional extensions of such Period. Bulgarian Bar Inc. *d/b/a BG Bar Inc* is a small business Debtor as defined by 11 U.S. C. § 101(51C).
- 6. Section 1121(e)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code addresses the small business debtor's time to file a plan and disclosure statement by first providing that only the debtor may file a plan for the first 180 days after the date of the order for relief ("Exclusivity period"), but that the debtor must file a plan within 300 days. 11 U.S.C. § 1121(e)(1).
- 7. Further, section 1121(e)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that in the small business case the Plan of reorganization and Disclosure statement shall be filed not later than 300 days after the date of the order for relief.
- 8. The Debtor's 180 days periods to file the Plan of reorganization and Disclosure statement are currently set to expire on **August 14, 2022**, respectively (the "Exclusivity **Period**").
- 9. On June 30, 2022, the Court entered an Order referring the Debtor and CAJ 113 LUDLOW CORP, the Landlord, to mediation. Pursuant to the Mediation referral order, the Parties shall select a mediator by July 13, 2022, and to file with the Court a stipulation and order that authorizes the appointment of the selected mediator.

- 10. Consequently, the Debtor needs an additional time to select a mediator, to participate in a mediation, to reach an agreement with the Landlord, to obtain Court approval for the settlement terms and to file a plan of reorganization and disclosure statement, offering treatment to the main and other remaining Creditors of the estate.
- a plan of reorganization ("Exclusivity period"). It is self-evident that the Debtor is not seeking these extensions to artificially delay the conclusion of this chapter 11 case or to hold creditors hostage to an unsatisfactory plan proposal. Simply put, at this juncture, the Debtor a simply needs time to reach an agreement with the Landlord, to obtain Court approval for the settlement terms and to file a plan of reorganization and disclosure statement, offering treatment to the main and other remaining Creditors of the estate.
- 12. The requested extensions of the Time period to file a plan will not harm any economic stakeholder. Rather, the time will be used to resolve a claim of the largest creditor, CAJ 113 LUDLOW CORP, through the Mediation. Moreover, should any events occur or there be a significant change in circumstances, a party in interest may move to reduce the Time period to file a plan. *See* 11 U.S.C. § 1121(e).
- 13. Consequently, the extension of the time period to file a plan will allow the Debtor to file a Chapter 11 plan of reorganization without violating the Bankruptcy Code and to provide a treatment to its Creditors.

WHEREFORE, the Debtor respectfully requests the Court entry an Order, substantially in the form annexed hereto, extending time to file a Chapter 11 Small Business Plan

of Reorganization and Chapter 11 Small Business Disclosure Statement through and including **December 12, 2022**, and for such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York July 5, 2022

> /s/ Alla Kachan Alla Kachan, Esq.

| EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK | |
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| In re: | _ |
| Bulgarian Bar Inc. d/b/a BG Bar Inc., | Case No: <u>1-22-40264-jmm</u> Chapter 11 |
| Debtor. | |
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ORDER PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. § 1121(e) EXTENDING TIME PERIOD TO FILE A PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Upon the motion, dated July 5, 2022 (the "Motion"), of Bulgarian Bar Inc. d/b/a BG Bar Inc (the "Debtor"), pursuant to section 1121(e) of title 11, United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), for entry of an order extending the Debtor's time period in which to file a chapter 11 plan of reorganization and disclosure statement, as more fully described in the Motion; and the Court having jurisdiction to consider the Motion and the relief requested therein in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334; and consideration of the Motion and the relief requested therein being a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); and venue being proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and due and proper notice of the Motion having been provided, and it appearing that no other or further notice need to be provided; and a hearing having been held to consider the relief requested in the Motion (the "Hearing"); and upon the record of the Hearing and all of the proceedings had before the Court; and the Court having found and determined that the relief sought in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtor, its estates, creditors, and all parties in interest, and that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it

ORDERED that the motion is granted as provided herein; and it is further

ORDERED that, pursuant to section 1121(e) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtor's Time period to file a chapter 11 plan of reorganization and Disclosure statement is extended to and including **December 12, 2022**; and it is further

ORDERED that the extension of the Time period granted herein is without prejudice to such further requests that may be made pursuant to section 1121(e) of the Bankruptcy Code by the Debtors or any party in interest, for cause shown, upon notice and a hearing; and it is further

ORDERED that this Court may retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or related to this Order.